

ACTION

OLL 84-0873

Office of Legislative Liaison
Routing Slip

TO:	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OLL		X
3. DD/OLL		X
3. Admin Officer		
4. Liaison		X
5. Legislation	X	
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

SUSPENSE

5Mar84
Date

Action Officer

Remarks:

*Completed by 84-0782 2/28/84
filed in Telecommunications*

27Feb84

Name/Date

STAT

STAT

OLL 84-0782
28 February 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Chief
Office of Legislative Liaison

FROM:

STAT

SUBJECT: S. 1917 -- Freedom of Expression Act
of 1983

1. After reviewing S. 1917, referred to our attention by Vicki Toensing of the SSCI, I conclude that this bill would not adversely affect Agency equities.

2. The main purpose of S. 1917 is to eliminate the statutory basis for the "Fairness Doctrine" and the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to revoke a broadcast station's license for not implementing this Doctrine. The Fairness Doctrine applied primarily to political and editorial broadcasts, and ensured that opposing viewpoints, as well as opposition candidates, were given an equal opportunity to express their views.

3. Senator Packwood stated that his bill was meant to remove the possibility of federal regulation of the print media as technological changes increasingly forced newspapers into telecommunications. However, it is interesting to note that S. 1917 would also permit broadcast stations to ignore the Fairness Doctrine in deciding whether to provide airtime to political candidates. As one self-proclaimed candidate for President has announced his intention to televise poronographic campaign advertisements, this last impact of S. 1917 should not be overlooked.

4. In response to her question, I believe we should inform Vicki Toensing that S. 1917 would not adversely affect the national security.

STAT

Attachment

cc: C/LEG/OLL

DISTRIBUTION:

Original - Addressee
✓ 1 - OLL Chrono
1 - LEG File: Telecommunications
1 - ROD Signer
1 - D/OLL
1 - [unclear]

STAT